Statement-II

Procurement of Levy Rice by FCI in Andhra Pradesh during Rabi Marketing Season 2000-2001 (as on 11.7.2001)

(Figures in MTs)

Name of the District	Grade 'A'	Common
Adilabad	446	0
Ananthapur	795	0
Chittoor	1159	36
Cuddapah	4123	1385
E. Godavari	143924	77635
Guntur	68619	9248
Hyderabad	356	0
Karimnagar	198339	1232
Khammam	47013	27
Krishna	162687	65818
Kurnool	9617	244
M. Nagar	56347	0
Medak	50413	1549
Nalgonda	238036	936
Nellore	100877	4879
Nizamabad	124940	186
Prakasham	62000	1132
Rangareddy	35157	47
Srikakulam	19787	242
Vizag	0	0
Vizianagar	10101	647
Warangal	88181	184
W. Godawari	256073	58292
TOTAL:	1678992	223919

Foodgrains stock with F.C.I.

484. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains stock in FCI godown has climbed all time high;

(b) the foodgrains stock as it is today; and

(c) whether Government are planning to use this stock for removing poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The stock of rice and wheat as on 1.7.2001 in Central Pool was 227.50 lakh tonnes and 389.20 lakh tonnes respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir. The following steps have been taken by the Government to utilize foodgrains for removing poverty:—

(i) The Government had increased the allocation to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families from 10 kg. to 20 kg. of foodgrains, per family, per month at 50% of economic cost from 1.4.2000.

(ii) Wheat and rice are being issued @ Rs. 2/- and Rs. 3/- per kg. respectively under "Antyodaya Yojana" launched in December, 2000 to provide foodgrains to one crore identified poorest families for this Scheme.

(iii) The number of BPL families were increased to 652.03 lakh with effect from 1.12.2000 as against 596.23 lakh families originally estimated in June, 1997 by shifting the base to the population projections of the registrar General as on 1.3.2000 instead of the earlier population projections of 1995.

(iv) The BPL allocation of foodgrains has been further increased from 20 kg. to 25 kg. per family, per month w.e.f. July, 2001.

(v) Offering of wheat and rice at price lower than economic cost under open sale.

(vi) Foodgrains at BPL rates are now made available for allotment of State Government @ 5 kg per head, per month for covering categories of indigent people living in welfare institutions such as begger homes, orphanages and Nari Niketans, etc.

(vii) Foodgrains at Central Issue Prices (CIP) applicable for BPL families are now made available for all welfare schemes, including schemes for supply of foodgrains to SC/ST/OBC hostels, implemented by various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

(viii) Foodgrains at the rate applicable for BPL families are now available for allotment to the State Government for undertaking Food for Work Programme in the State as also for the "Greening India Campaign".

(ix) Foodgrains are allotted at BPL rates for development schemes (where the beneficiaries belong to the BPL category) implemented by NGOs sponsored by the State Government and endorsed by the Administrative Ministry in the Government of India, as also by International Organisations like the World Food Programme.

(x) 15.48 lakh tonnes of foodgrains (6.65 lakh tonnes rice and 8.83 lakh tonnes wheat) was allotted free of cost to Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan for undertaking Food for Work Programmes in the drought affected areas.

Amendment in Sugar Development Fund

485. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before his Ministry to make amendments in the Sugar Development Fund;

(b) if so, the proposed amendments to be carried out by his Ministry; and

(c) the reasons for such amendments and how it would help the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has under consideration proposals to make amendments to the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 (SDF Act) and the Sugar Development Fund Rules, 1983 (SDF Rules) framed under this Act. The proposals include provisions for making loans for facilitating bagasse based cogeneration power, production of anhydrous alcohol/ethanol from alcohol and defraying expenditure on internal transport and freight charges on export shipments of sugar. The SDF Rules are proposed to be amended to provide, *inter-alia*, for loans on concessional terms for the rehabilitation of potentially viable sick sugar mills and to provide for buffer subsidy being used first to clear cane price payments (including arrears) to sugarcane growers.